IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/549,760 Confirmation No. : 8427

First Named Inventor : DeLuca, Patrick Filed : March 19, 2004

TC/A.U. : 1618

Examiner : Blessing M. Fubara Docket No. : 104072.B870248

Title : (Poly(acryloyl-hydroxyethyl starch)-plga composition

microspheres

REPLY TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated June 2, 2010, Applicants submit herewith the following response.

The Office has required that the present application be restricted, under 36 U.S.C. § 121, to one of the following four groups of claims:

Group I: Claim 1, drawn to composite microsphere system;

Group II: Claim 3, drawn to formulation comprising a composite microsphere;

Group III: Claims 4-13, drawn to method for sustained release delivery of therapeutic agent; or

Group IV: Claims 14 and 15, drawn to method of preparing a composite microsphere system.

Applicants hereby elect the invention defined by the Examiner as Group I, claim 1, drawn to composite microsphere system. As Group I is elected, no species election is required.

This response is made without prejudice or disclaimer to any non-elected subject matter, and Applicants reserve the right to file one or more continuation and/or divisional applications directed to any non-elected subject matter.

In view of the foregoing, further and favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is believed to be next in order. Such action is earnestly solicited. If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket # 104072.B870248).

If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323, Docket No. 104072.B870248.

Respectfully submitted,

July 1, 2010

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